

# The County Record.

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## NEW YEAR GREETINGS

We take this opportunity to extend our sincere thanks to the good people of Kingstree and Williamsburg County for the liberal patronage they have bestowed upon us. We have been before you now for twelve years and have always made it a point to give you full value for every dollar you have spent with us. You have shown your appreciation of our efforts by the liberal patronage given us and we assure you that we have appreciated it. We have endeavored to always keep a full and complete stock on hand, enabling us to supply your wants. We have always upheld quality. Our long experience has taught us what is best to buy in our various lines and we give you the benefit of forty years of experience in the Hardware Business. We again thank you and solicit your patronage for the future. Wishing you one and all a happy and prosperous New Year, we remain, yours truly,

Coffins and Caskets.

**Kingstree Hardware Co.**  
EVENTUALLY--WHY NOT NOW?

We Lead--Others Follow.

### A BUSY WEEK IN THE LEGISLATURE.

#### STRENGTHENING PROHIBITION-- EDUCATIONAL BILLS--VOTES FOR WOMEN DEFEATED.

The second week of the 1916 session of the General Assembly was a busy one in legislative circles. Many important measures were disposed of; the majority of the bills introduced at this session have been reported out of committee; most important of all, the law makers have shown a disposition to reduce the calendar, which on account of the large number of bills introduced is a 38-page document in the House and 18-page one in the Senate.

Each week sees the prohibition law strengthened, directly or indirectly. Early in the week the House passed the Liles bill, providing for a term sentence without the option of a fine to be imposed on any person violating any law of the State regarding the sale or shipment of intoxicating liquors. The Legislature had already passed a measure to make drunkenness on the public highway a misdemeanor. It is probable also that the House will this week dispose of the bill by Messrs Crum, Sellers and Wagoner to make an appropriation of \$50,000 for the enforcement of the prohibition and gallon-a-month laws; the bill received a favorable report from the committee.

#### SCHOLARSHIPS LIVE TOPIC.

The abuse of free tuition and scholarships in the State colleges has led to suggestions of remedial legislation in the Senate. A bill by Senator Verner is now pending on second reading to abolish free tuition and scholarships and providing that students shall pay at least \$40 tuition each year; an amendment is urged by Senator Carlisle to allow the students to sign notes payable two years after leaving school. The question will be disposed of this week.

A plan suggested by Senator Laney of Chesterfield is to have the State board of education to act as a clearing house for scholarships and free tuition, which board would investigate the particular merits of each application. An amendment which has been highly commended by some of the Senators has been offered by Senator Padgett of Colleton county, who would have the fiscal agent of the State board of charities and corrections investigate the financial status of the parents or guardians of students seeking State aid and report to the General Assembly. Abuse of the privilege would automatically forfeit State aid.

Woman suffrage, for the first time seriously considered and fought for on the floor of the House, met defeat Thursday night by a vote of 61 to 51. The unexpected strength of the equal suffrage cause was gratifying to the suffragists of Columbia.

The courtesy of the floor was extended during the week to three speakers from other States. Tuesday night the joint assembly was addressed by Alexander Johnson of Philadelphia, field secretary of the committee on provision for the fee-

ble minded; Wednesday night the members of the House heard an able exposition of the single tax theory by John Z. White of Chicago, representing the Henry George lecture bureau; Thursday night Clarence Poe of Raleigh, editor of The Progressive Farmer, spoke to the lower House on "Needed Legislation for Our Rural Communities." The General Assembly has submitted an invitation to President Wilson to explain his views on the question of national preparedness.

The policy of "let well enough alone" was observed by the House when it defeated a bill by Mr. Harper to place the compulsory school attendance law in the next general election for the purpose of having the county made the unit instead of the school district.

Looking at the matter as a business proposition, the Senate by a decided majority favored the reorganization of the engrossing department. Figures were produced to show that this department uses an appropriation of about \$6,500 each year, whereas if typewriters and competent stenographers were used the cost would aggregate little more than \$1,000. This action by the Senate is in accordance with the policy of retrenchment determined upon by the Legislature, and it is said that the bill by Senator Verner will meet with comparatively little opposition in the House.

In the House the 2-cent mileage bill, the rate to apply on railroads more than 50 miles in length on intra-state business, passed with comparative ease. It was maintained that the increased travel due to the decreased rate would more than compensate the railroads for the reduction.

#### RURAL CREDITS BILL.

The problem of rural credits, a means of developing home ownership, will come up first in the Senate, where a bill by Senator Sherard is now on the calendar to authorize upon the approval of the voters in a general election the issuance of not more than \$10,000,000 in bonds, the proceeds to be loaned to tillers of the soil on long term credits at a low rate of interest.

It is presumed now that the fight against the South Carolina tax commission, created last year, will center principally upon amendments to the act rather than the abolition of the board. It is thought also that the bill to abolish the State board of charities and corrections, which was reported unfavorably in both Houses, will not receive much support.

A bill creating a State highway commission and providing for State registration of all motor vehicles has been introduced in the House by the committee on roads, bridges and ferries.

The purpose of the commission is to "instruct, assist and cooperate with road authorities in the various counties of the State in the improvement and construction of highways in said counties; to study the systems of road building and maintenance in other States; to make investigations and experiments to determine the methods and materials best suited to road construction and to publish bulletins."

## Kingstree Manufacturing and Construction Co.

### Builders and General Contractors

Manufacturers of Coffins, Boxes, Building Material  
Lumber, Lumber Specialties, Screen Goods, Etc.

Kingstree, - - - - - South Carolina

### Real Estate--Farm Lands.

Country Farms and Town Lots For Sale!  
If You Want to Buy, See Us  
If You Want to Sell, See Us

We can place you in any section of the County that you want. Address all correspondence to  
**Gourdin & Harper, Kingstree, S. C.**

The selection of a State highway engineer at a salary of not more than \$3,000 is left to the commission, which shall be comprised of the professors of civil engineering of the University of South Carolina, Clemson college and the Citadel, the Commissioner of Agriculture and one other member, to be appointed by the Governor for a term of two years.

The funds for the maintenance of the commission are to come from fees for State registration of motor vehicles, grouped as follows: For a motor vehicle having a rating of 25 horsepower or less, \$4; of more than 25 and less than 40 horsepower, \$6; of more than 40 horsepower, \$8. One-third of the fund realized from these fees will go to the commission and two-thirds to the county from which the registration fees are received. For the year 1916, should the bill be enacted, owners of motor vehicles will be required to pay only one-half of the respective annual license fee.

The penalty for violation of operating a motor vehicle without having a State license is \$25 and the payment of the fee.

#### McLAURIN RE-ELECTED.

#### Easily Defeats Opponents For Warehouse Commissioner

Columbia, January 26:--Former United States Senator John L. McLaurin of Bennettsville was re-elected today as State warehouse commissioner by the General Assembly on the first ballot over his two opponents, Messrs Carey and McMahan.

Carlton W. Sawyer was elected without opposition to fill out the unexpired term of A. W. Jones as Comptroller General. F. H. McMaster of Columbia succeeds himself as State insurance commissioner. T. B. Fraser of Sumter was unopposed as Associate Justice of the State Supreme Court. Judges S. W. G. Shipp and James W. DeVore were re-elected

Circuit Judges. Other elections for minor offices were postponed until tomorrow.

In the election for warehouse commissioner there was much interest. Commissioner John L. McLaurin was elected on the first ballot against his two opponents. The disposition is to give Mr. McLaurin a full and complete chance with the warehouse system.

The vote stood: John L. McLaurin, 91; Frank M. Carey, 40; Jno. J. McMahan, 22.

There was no opposition to the re-election of Associate Justice T. B. Fraser, of Sumter county, who has served one term as member of the Supreme Court Bench.

Judge S. W. G. Shipp of Florence was re-elected Judge of the 12th circuit; there was no opposition.

Judge J. W. DeVore was re-elected Judge of the 11th circuit. The name of Mr. J. B. Wingard, a member of the House, was presented for this position, but the General Assembly re-elected Judge DeVore; 108 votes being cast for him and 43 for Mr. Wingard.

#### Cotton Ginner's Report.

The ninth cotton ginning report of the season, compiled from reports of census bureau correspondents and agents throughout the cotton belt, issued Monday, show that 10,766,202 bales of cotton had been ginned prior to January 16, 1916. That compares with 14,915,850, or 98.8 per cent of the entire crop ginned prior to January 16 last year. The report shows that 1,149,562 bales have been ginned in South Carolina as against 1,424,700 for the year 1914.

It is said that as a conservative estimate \$5,000,000 is now being expended annually by munition plants in the United States to protect themselves against incendiarism, bomb plots and spies and interference in the filling of war orders.

## Arrival

Two cars Pittsburg Perfect Fence in various styles just received. We can make very attractive figures on these two cars. Ask us for our prices.

### The King Hardware Company

The Popular Hardware Store

Kingstree, - - - South Carolina



YOU HAVE HEARD ALL YOUR LIFE THAT "YOUR MONEY IS YOUR BEST FRIEND." IF YOU ARE LETTING YOUR MONEY SLIP AWAY FROM YOU, STOP IT. YOU CAN STOP IT IF YOU WILL. YOU WANT TO BE INDEPENDENT. THE ONLY WAY YOU CAN BECOME SO IS TO BANK YOUR MONEY.

#### BANK WITH US.

WE PAY 4 PER CENT INTEREST ON SAVINGS ACCOUNTS.  
**Farmers & Merchants National Bank,**  
"ABSOLUTELY SAFE" LAKE CITY, S. C.

Loans Made on Cotton at 5 Per Cent.